

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
CES Chemical Spill Response - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VI

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial/Final
CES Chemical Spill Response
TXD008950461
Houston, TX
Latitude: 29.6984000 Longitude: -95.3435000

To: Ronald D. Crossland, USEPA Superfund Division - PRB
Anthony Buck, TCEQ
Reggie Cheatham, USEPA Headquarters

From: Gary Moore, FOSC

Date: 8/2/2014

Reporting Period: 08/02/2014

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A6KC	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	8/2/2014	Start Date:	8/2/2014
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	8/8/2014
CERCLIS ID:	TXD008950461	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency

1.1.2 Site Description

CES is a bankrupt former waste treatment facility. Storm water from heavy rains in the area have carried an oily material and floating solids from the Site a local neighborhood. The Site is in a mixed industrial, commercial, and residential area.

1.1.2.1 Location

4904 Griggs Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas
Latitude: 29.6984N Longitude: -95.3435W

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Potential exposure to surrounding residential population south of the site as a result of contaminated storm water inundating road side ditches and portions of residential properties adjacent to the road side ditches.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Oily chemical material and floating solids released from the abandoned facility into the residential neighborhood as a result of heavy rainfall event combined with a suspected release due to vandalism from Tank Trailer 408.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On 01 August 2014, the City of Houston installed dikes at the front (North side) and South side of the facility to slow material from migrating off site. The City of Houston mobilized its contractor and recovered 6000 gallons of an oily water mixture from ditches within the residential area.

On 02 August 2014, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) initiated an emergency response action at the site and within the residential neighborhood. The TCEQ contractor mobilized 6 frac tanks, 4 vacuum trucks to the facility to remove accumulated storm water and oily mousse material from the facility and ditches from the residential area south of the site. The TCEQ recovered approximately 60,000 gallons of an oily water mixture from the site and the residential ditches along with water used for flushing the ditches.

On 02 August 2014, the EPA responded and conducted sampling of the suspected source, residential ditch water, residential area soil samples (ditches and impacted soil areas), air sampling in the residential neighborhood and on-site. Additionally, EPA repaired on-site fencing to restrict access and trimmed and collected cutting from stained ditchlines and residential properties.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The company is in bankruptcy and a trustee is managing the estate.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

The response activities included removing contaminated stormwater from the residential areas, cleaning the stained areas in residential yards and the street, sampling the residential soils, ditch water, and suspected source, air monitoring with the residential area and on-site, and, repairing security fencing.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The EPA Team will be processing the data and writing the final report for the EPA portion of the is response effort. The data collected will be used to determine if additional actions need to be taken within the residential area due to historical releases from the facility in combination with this spill. It is anticipated that the residential area will be evaluated by a remedial assessment as part of the preliminary assessment/site inspection activities already being planned.

2.2.2 Issues

The spill appears to be the result of vandalism as a valve on a tank trailer was opened and allowed a release oily materials on the ground on the faciity with a portion being carried by stormwater into the residential neighborhood.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Houston, TCEQ, EPA

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

www.epaossc.org/CES_Chem_Spill

6.2 Reporting Schedule

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.